

Message Text

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60

ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ITF-05 SS-15 SSO-00 INR-07

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 100892

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, KS, VS

SUBJECT: KOREANS IN SAIGON

REFERENCE; SEOUL 3048 NOTAL

1. IT APPEARS NINE KOREAN EMBASSY STAFF AND APPROXIMATELY 130 KOREAN RESIDENTS WERE NOT ABLE TO BE EVACUATED FROM SAIGON. SAID TO BE IN KOREAN AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE AND SEEKING REFUGE IN JAPANESE AND FRENCH EMBASSIES.

2. WE HAVE NO OTHER INFO ON THIS SUBJECT, AND IT POSSIBLE, OF COURSE, THAT OTHER GROUPS IN SAIGON (APPARENTLY INCLUDING SOME OF JAPANESE EMBASSY STAFF THEMSELVES) MISSED EVACUATION. WE WOULD URGE FRENCH AND JAPANESE
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GOVERNMENTS TO BE AS FORTHCOMING AS POSSIBLE IN PROVIDING REFUGE AND ASSISTANCE TO NON-EVACUEES. THIS MAY BE PARTICULARLY URGENT IN CASE OF KOREANS IN VIEW ROK'S PREVIOUS INVOLVEMENT IN VIETNAM WAR.

3. EMBASSIES REQUESTED MAKE REPRESENTATIONS URGENTLY AS ABOVE. WE UNDERSTAND ROK GOVERNMENT IS IN TOUCH WITH FRENCH AND JAPANESE ON THIS MATTER. EMBASSIES SHOULD SUPPORT THESE REPRESENTATIONS IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE.

4. JAPANESE EMBASSY HAS INFORMED DEPARTMENT THAT ONE DIPLOMAT AND FOUR NEWSPAPERMEN WERE EVACUATED WITH TOTAL OF 170 STILL IN SAIGON. CODES HAVE BEEN DESTROYED BUT UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGES APPARENTLY GETTING THROUGH. EMBOFF STATED SWISS, BELGIAN AND VATICAN EMBASSIES REMAIN IN OPERATION, AS WELL AS JAPANESE, FRENCH AND KOREAN. JAPANESE AMBASSADOR SAID TO BE IN TOUCH WITH OTHER DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES. DEPARTMENT OFFICER URGED JAPANESE AND OTHER DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS STILL IN SAIGON EXTEND ALL POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE TO KOREANS IN VIEW OF LATTERS' PARTICULAR VULNERABILITY. JAPANESE EMBOFF AGREED TO REPORT THIS APPROACH TO TOKYO. KISSINGER

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